

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 3 and 4 with the following paragraph:

By the way, in a case that the fixing roller 11 has a constant diameter in an axis direction thereof and an outer side portion 12a of the restricting member 12 is arranged on an inner side of an end edge portion 1a of the fixing roller 1 as shown in Fig. 8A, since the restricting member 12 restricts the interval between the exfoliating member 11 and the surface of the fixing roller by being brought into contact with the surface of the fixing roller 1, a contact portion of the surface of the fixing roller is gradually worn by ~~press~~ press contact with the restricting member 12 although gradually while the fixing apparatus is operated. The worn portion is produced in a ring-like shape on the surface of the fixing roller as a contact mark. The contact mark is remarkable at portions in correspondence with the both side edge portions of the restricting member 12.

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 15 with the following paragraph:

~~Th~~ The fixing roller 61 is formed with a gradual inverse crown shape (shape in which a diameter of a central portion thereof in an axis direction is slightly smaller than a diameter of both end portions thereof) (refer to Fig. 3). The restricting member 80 is brought into contact with the fixing roller 61 at a contact portion which is other than a portion T1 thereof brought into contact with an end edge portion 62c of the pressing roller 62. In Fig. 3, the contact portion is located at an outer side in an axial direction of the fixing roller.

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 19 with the following paragraph:

The eas case 110 is provided with a frame of an apparatus main body, not illustrated, and the respective units and the like are attached to the frame.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
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Please replace the second full paragraph on page 22 with the following paragraph:

Hence, according to the embodiment, as shown in Figs. 5 and 6, the exfoliating member 180 is provided with a roller 183.